



USDA/NASS/Virginia Field Office
P. O. Box 1659
Richmond, VA 23218-1659
Phone (804) 771-2493
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/va>

WEATHER & CROPS



Week of: April 17 - 23, 2006

Number: 7

Released: April 24, 2006

CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 23, 2006

The Commonwealth welcomed some much needed rain this week. Days suitable for fieldwork were 4.7. Average rainfall for the week was 1.4 inches, and the average temperature was 60 degrees. Widespread rainfall was beneficial to pastures, hay fields, and emerging crops. Small grains, affected the most by March's dry conditions, are short and heading early. Pasture growth is slow but improving with moisture. Livestock producers still face feeding concerns with little remaining stored hay and a grim outlook for this year's crop. Corn is emerging nicely as planting continues. Tobacco producers have delayed planting due to dry soil, but should start planting in the week ahead. Grape producers sustained some damage from early bud development due to warm winter temperatures followed by freezing temperatures in March. Strawberry producers are getting ready for harvest. Other farm activities this week included shearing sheep, vaccinating cattle, fertilizing, seeding, and fencing.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
April 2, 2006	52	35	13	0
April 9, 2006	42	38	19	1
April 16, 2006	32	47	21	0
April 23, 2006	22	37	31	10

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pastures	7	25	39	27	2
Livestock	2	7	29	56	6
Other Hay	10	29	40	18	3
Alfalfa Hay	2	21	46	29	2
Winter Wheat	6	14	43	35	2
Barley	4	17	39	36	4
All Apples	0	0	49	51	0
Peaches	3	19	49	28	1
Grapes	0	12	30	56	2

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT - WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Average
Corn Planted	50	30	27	35
Corn Emerged	24	8	6	6
Cotton Planted	18	10	8	10

WEATHER STATION	TEMPERATURE (degrees Fahrenheit)				PRECIPITATION (inches)		
	HI	LO	Average	Departure From Normal	TOTAL	Departure From Normal	Days
NORTHERN							
Woodstock	81	37	57	2	2.13	1.50	4
Warrenton	80	41	57	3	2.13	1.36	4
Winchester 7 SE	82	34	54	2	1.85	1.14	4
Dale Enterprise	79	30	55	2	2.10	1.51	6
WESTERN							
Glasgow	85	41	61	5	2.02	1.35	4
Roanoke AP	82	40	61	5	1.23	0.46	5
Waynesboro	81	33	57	4	1.13	0.47	4
Staunton AG	80	35	59	7	1.41	0.75	4
CENTRAL							
Charlottesville	83	36	59	2	1.41	0.62	4
Piedmont Res ST	83	41	60	5	1.39	0.67	3
Bremo Bluff	87	32	61	5	0.78	0.08	4
Richmond AP	85	37	61	3	1.00	0.30	3
EASTERN							
Eastville	75	44	61	4	1.54	0.93	4
Wallops Island	78	43	59	3	1.12	0.62	3
Williamsburg	82	40	62	4	1.66	0.98	4
Keysville	89	38	63	7	0.93	0.21	3
SOUTHWESTERN							
Blacksburg AG	79	36	57	6	1.99	1.15	5
Wytheville	79	38	57	7	1.12	0.38	4
Saltville	82	41	59	7	1.61	0.75	5
Richlands	82	38	59	11	2.49	1.65	7
SOUTHERN							
Stuart	85	38	61	6	0.98	0.00	5
Danville AG	84	42	63	5	1.05	0.30	2
Chatham	83	33	58	4	0.93	0.13	3
Martinsville	82	35	60	6	0.88	0.04	3
SOUTHEASTERN							
Norfolk VA	78	45	62	5	0.59	-0.11	3
Oceana	79	43	62	4	0.58	-0.05	4
Emporia	87	39	63	7	1.67	0.98	3
Newport News	83	42	62	5	0.14	-0.56	5

Departure from Normal based on 1961-90 Normals.
Precipitation Days=Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.